

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 30 (previously canceled)

Claim 31 (currently amended): An isolated polynucleotide comprising:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding an lysyl-tRNA synthetase, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14 have at least 80% identity based on the Clustal alignment method, or
(b) the a full-length complement of the nucleotide sequence of (a).

Claim 32 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14 have 85% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

Claim 33 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14 have 90% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14 have 95% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:9 or SEQ ID NO:13.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the synthetase comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14.

Claim 37 (previously added): A chimeric gene comprising the polynucleotide of claim 31 operably linked to a regulatory sequence.

Claim 38 (previously added): A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 31.

Claim 39 (previously added): A method for transforming a cell comprising transforming a cell with the polynucleotide of claim 31.

Claim 40 (previously added): A cell comprising the chimeric gene of claim 37.

Claim 41 (previously added): A method for producing a plant comprising transforming a plant cell with the chimeric gene of claim 31 and regenerating a plant from the transformed plant cell.

Claim 42 (previously added): A plant comprising the chimeric gene of claim 37.

Claim 43 (previously added): A seed comprising the chimeric gene of claim 37.

Claims 44 – 66 (withdrawn)